

IN THE CLAIMS

1-10 (canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A self-illuminating vehicle roof assembly, comprising:

a roof wall ~~extending between~~ having an interior portion surface and an exterior portion of a vehicle surface; and

an interior panel secured to the interior surface of the roof wall, the interior panel being comprised of a phosphorescent material and a polymer matrix, ~~the interior panel disposed on an interior surface of the roof wall.~~

12. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphorescent material is dispersed within the polymer matrix.

13. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphorescent material is disposed on at least one surface of the polymer matrix.

14. (Currently amended) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphorescent material comprises a non-oxide phosphor, an oxide phosphor, or a combination comprising at least one of the foregoing phosphors, the phosphorescent material being configured to form a pattern on or in the polymer matrix.

15. (Currently amended) The assembly according to Claim ~~11~~ 14, wherein the non-oxide phosphor is selected from a group consisting of zinc sulfide, zinc sulfide doped with a transition metal, and zinc sulfide doped with a rare earth metal, the zinc sulfide doped with a transition being configured to provide a glow light discharge with a particular hue.

16. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11 further comprising:

a light-conducting component disposed between a location external to the vehicle and a point adjacent to the interior panel to transmit external light to the interior panel for exciting the phosphorescent material to glow for a period of time following exposure to the external light.

17. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the light-conducting component comprises an existing window of the vehicle.

~~18-20. (Canceled): (Currently amended) A method for providing a light source in a vehicle, wherein the light source is free of an external power supply, the method comprising:~~

~~—exposing a panel disposed on an interior surface of a wall of a vehicle to an external light source, wherein the panel comprises a phosphorescent material and a polymer matrix; and~~

~~—emitting visible light from the phosphorescent material and into the interior portion of the vehicle upon exposure to the external light source or upon discontinuation of the external light source, wherein the light source is free of an external power supply.~~

~~19. (Original) The method according to Claim 18, further comprising diffusing the radiant energy produced from the external light source with the phosphorescent material.~~

~~20. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the wall comprises a roof wall.~~